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**PRESS RELEASE**

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board  
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**South Bay Workforce Investment Board Partners with Local Businesses to Support School Districts' Grab and Go Lunch Program for Students**

**HAWTHORNE** – The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) is spearheading a drive to furnish bags for local school districts' Grab and Go Lunch Programs for students.

The Centinela Valley Union High School District turned to SBWIB near the end of April for assistance when it began experiencing problems in procuring bags for its daily food distribution program. The SBWIB immediately solicited the support of area markets and retailers and in a short time the effort resulted in 15,000 bags being donated to the district. Target has committed to making weekly bag donations.

The SBWIB followed up with its own procurement of 110,000 bags, of which 60,000 went to Centinela, and 25,000 each to the Lawndale and Hawthorne School Districts. Among the corporate participants providing bags are Target, Kaiser, Uline, Paper Bag Distributor, Jon's Market, Staples, Alpha Express and Dine Brands.

"Never have our partnerships with businesses and educators been more vital than now during this current COVID-19 crisis," noted SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel. "We can get through this together as we face a variety of challenges," he concluded.

SBWIB observes safe and sanitary practices in the delivery of services to its clients at our South Bay Business and Career Centers serving South Bay communities while encouraging virtual workshops, conferencing and social distancing in partnership with EDD and onsite AJCC partners. For further information, telephone 310-970-7700 or visit [www.sbwib.org](http://www.sbwib.org) and [www.sbwib.org/covid-19-resources](http://www.sbwib.org/covid-19-resources)

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